



Office of Solid Waste

Environmental Fact Sheet

Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Hazardous Waste Combustors-- Direct Final Rule, Parallel Proposal, and Proposed Rule

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is amending nation-wide standards for hazardous waste burning incinerators, cement kilns and lightweight aggregate kilns. These amendments will make it easier to comply with the standards that apply to many hazardous air pollutants of concern, including dioxins and furans, mercury, and other heavy metals.

Background

In the 1999 hazardous waste combustors rule, EPA adopted National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) to more rigorously control toxic emissions from the burning of hazardous waste in incinerators, cement kilns, and lightweight aggregate kilns. These emission standards created a technology-based national cap for hazardous air pollutant emissions assuring that combustion of hazardous waste in these devices is properly controlled.

Today's action makes final 13 amendments to the 1999 rule, and in a related action, solicits comment on 20 additional amendments. The majority of these amendments relate directly to our discussions with industry stakeholders following promulgation of the final rule. These stakeholders agreed not to pursue certain potential litigation issues pending final Agency action.

Action

The EPA is taking direct final action on 13 amendments to the NESHAP: Final Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Hazardous Waste Combustors (Phase I) rule, published September 30, 1999. We are taking direct final action in an effort to expedite promulgation of these noncontroversial amendments where we expect no

adverse comments. In a related action, we are also proposing 20 additional amendments to the Phase I rule.

These regulatory changes do not propose to amend the numerical emission standards, but rather focus on improvements to the implementation of the emission standards, primarily in the areas of compliance, testing and monitoring. We anticipate that final promulgation of these amendments will make it easier to comply with the Phase I rule.

We are also issuing a parallel proposal that cross-references the 13 amendments included in the direct final rule. If we receive adverse comment on any of the direct final rule amendments, we will withdraw the specific amendments and continue the direct final action for the remaining noncontroversial amendments. We will consider the withdrawn direct final amendments and any comments received on them in the context of the parallel proposal.

For More Information

The *Federal Register* notice and this fact sheet are available in electronic format on the Internet at our Web site— www.epa.gov/hwcmact. For additional information or to order paper copies of the *Federal Register* notice, call the RCRA Hotline at 800 424-9346 (outside the Washington, D.C. area), or 703 412-9810 in the Washington, D.C. area or TDD 800 553-7672 (hearing impaired). Copies of documents applicable to this rule are also available on our Web page at www.epa.gov/hwcmact or can be obtained by writing: RCRA Information Center (RIC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste (5305G), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.